



My Family History

Felisha Ward

New Mexico

A significant connection I can make to history is through the historical Trinity Site which was the site of the world's first atomic fission explosion on July 16, 1945 at White Sands Missile Range, 80 miles from my hometown.

<http://www.vivanewmexico.com/sw.trinity.html>



The Sweatman Family

Mother's Side

Nola and Garfield Sweatman



Ronnie CG Michael Debbie Bill

My
Grandfather



Historical Connections: Almost all the men
in this family have once served in the
military, and my Great Uncle Mike served in
Vietnam, and was also stationed in Okinawa.

The Maynard Family

Mother's Side

John Maynard

Joan

Pamelia

My Grandmother
Born: April 10, 1938

My grandmother was born and raised in
Cornerbrook, Newfoundland.

Historical Connections: It is said that we have a
connection to Rose Kennedy on this side of the
family, but I have not been able to confirm that.
However, if this is true then I could relate our family
to the history of the Kennedy administration.



My grandmother married my grandfather, Bill
Sweatman when he was stationed in Canada.
She experienced immigration from another
country, and became a United States citizen
around the late 1950's or early 1960's.

The Porchas Family

Father's Side

Dolores and Nick Porchas

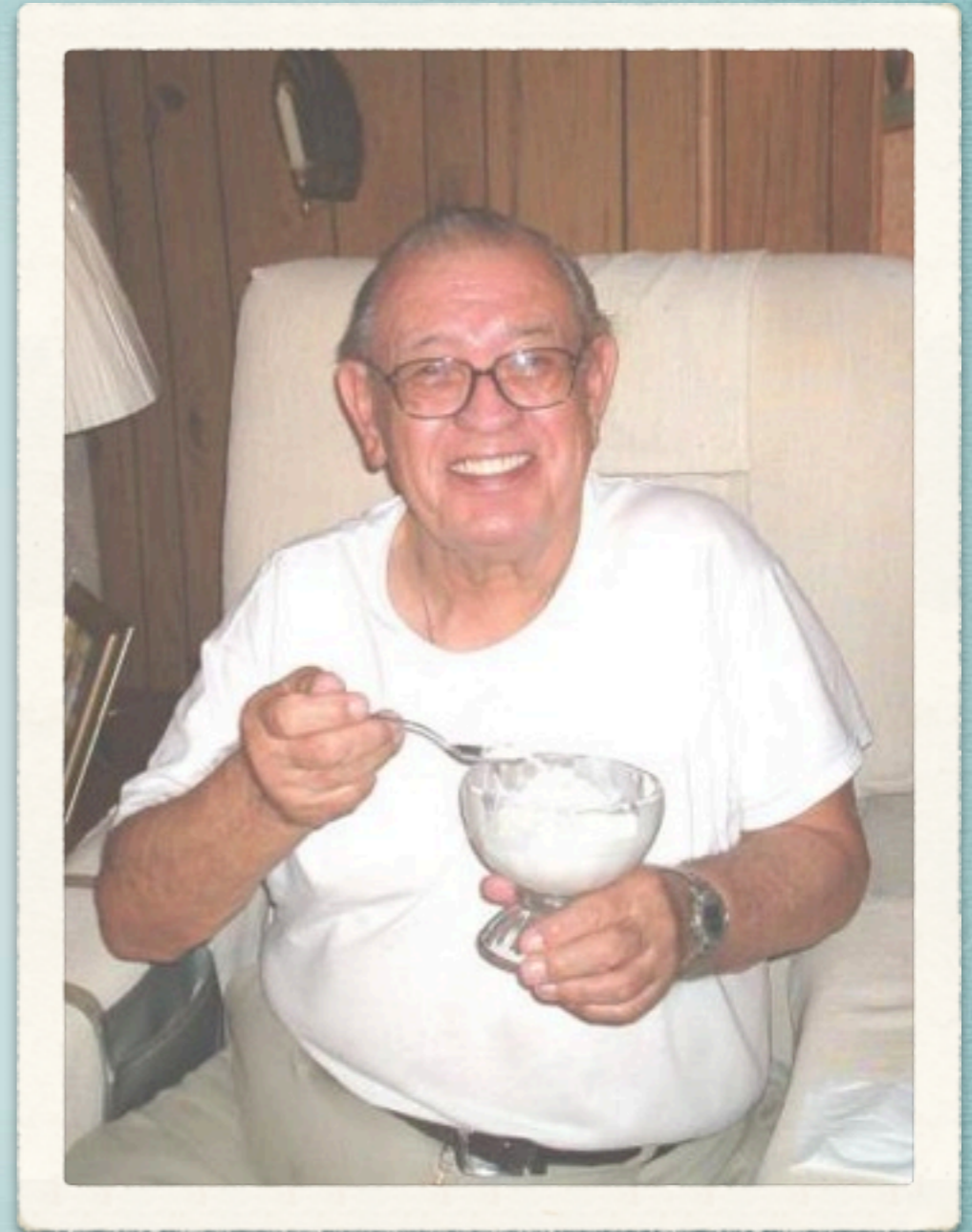
Ignacio Porchas

My grandfather

Born January 26, 1926

My grandfather grew up in a farming and mining community in Mexico. His family was initially financially stable, but a family member somehow stole all of their money. My great grandparents were unable to make it, so they moved to Juarez, Mexico in hopes of someday making it to the United States.

After my grandfather married my grandmother and had a child, they decided it was time to move to the US. In 1956 he received legal papers to immigrate with his family.



My grandfather only completed school up to second grade.

The Ramos Family

Father's Side

Chole Ramos

Theresa Guadalupe

My grandmother

Born December 20, 1933

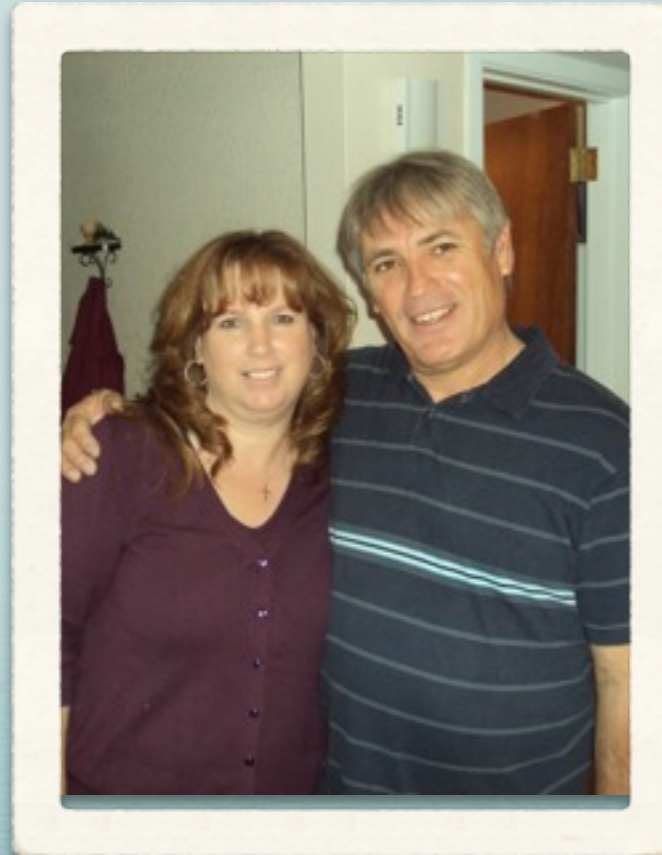
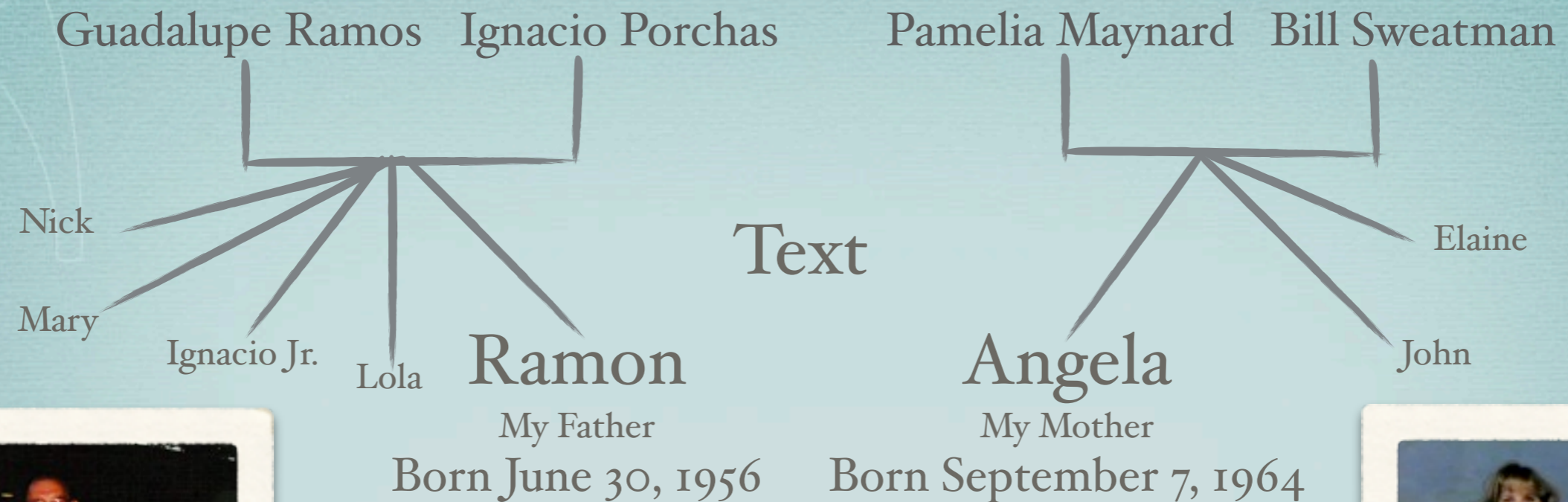
My father says that my grandmother does not remember any historical events because during her childhood their sole focus was on survival. They lived in complete poverty in Juarez, Mexico. My grandmother often tells the story of selling tortillas on the streets to raise money for their family.

She legally moved to the United States with my grandfather in 1958.



My grandmother also only completed school up to the second grade.

My Immediate Family



Important Note

My grandparents immigrated to the U.S. to provide a better life for their family. My Dad along with his brothers and sisters all graduated from high school and have careers that allow them to provide for their families.

My Dad

Ramon Porchas

Born June 30, 1956 in Juarez, Mexico.

Moved to the U.S. at two years of age. His family moved to pursue a better life for their family.

Historical connections:

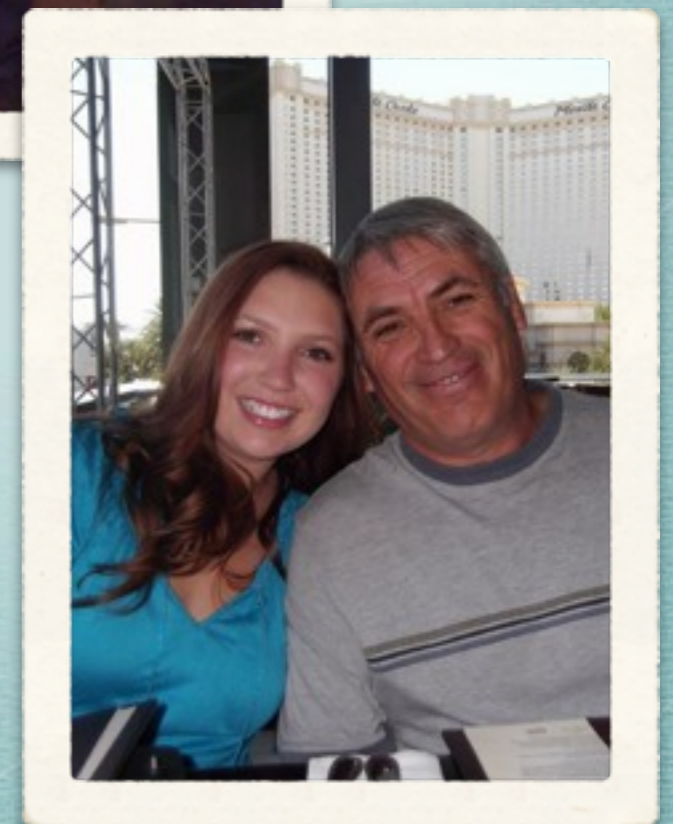
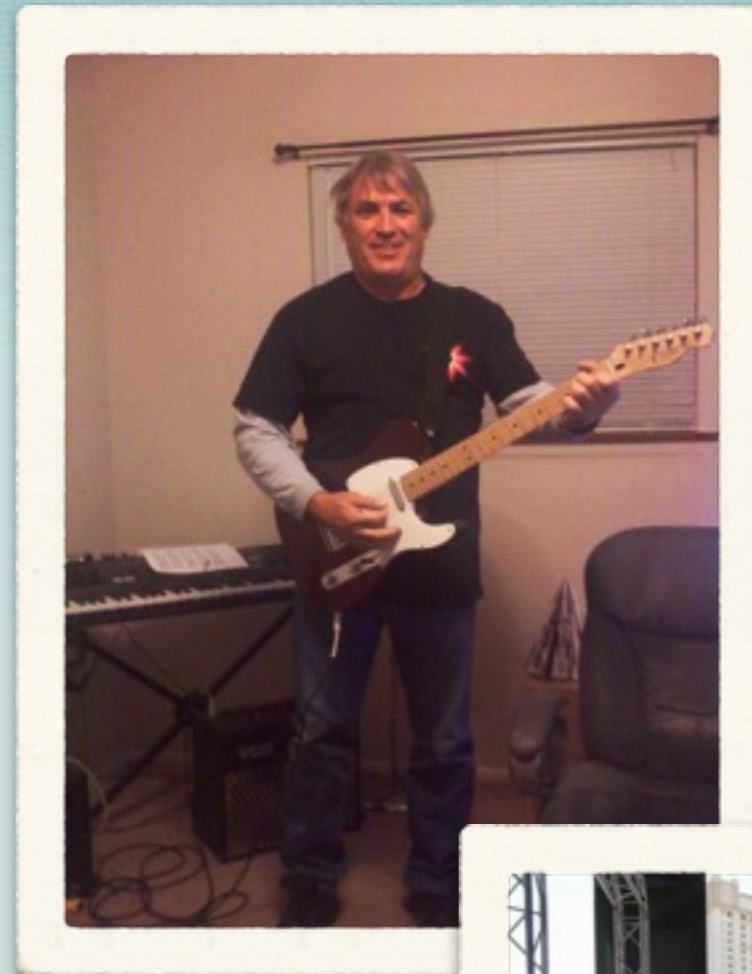
My Dad remembers doing drills at school practicing for nuclear attacks.

My Dad remembers watching John F. Kennedy's funeral and news of his assassination on a 19" black and white television set.

He also remembers watching the news when Martin Luther King Jr. was murdered.

My father's family took a vacation to California to visit family in 1965, and had to end their vacation early due to the Watts Riots that were taking place there.

My Dad also got to see the television broadcast of the first man on the moon. "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."



My Mom

Angela Porchas

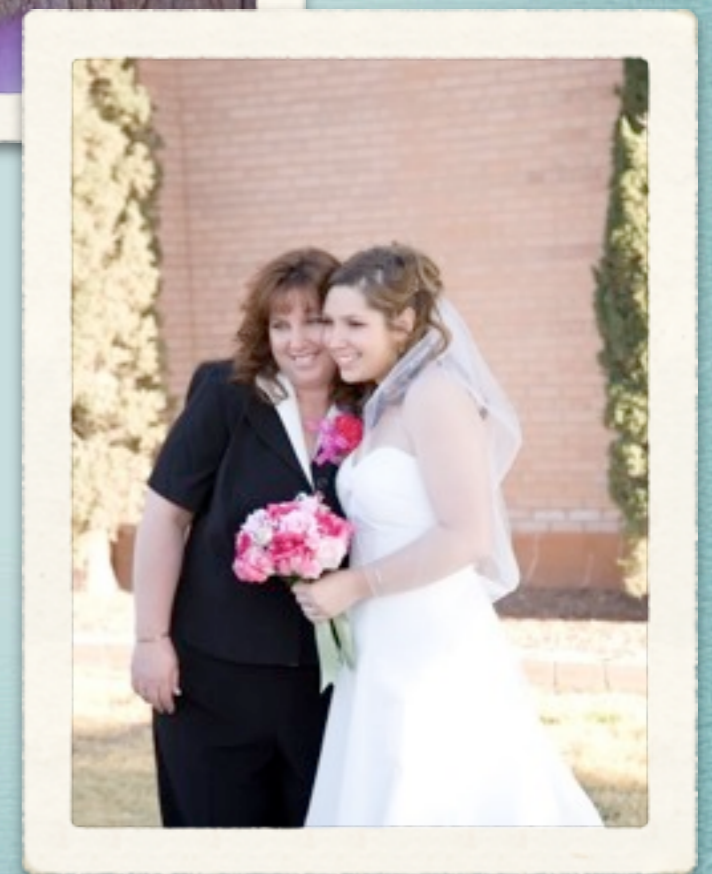
Born September 7, 1964 in Bossier City, Louisiana.
She is the first college graduate in our entire family.

Historical Connections:

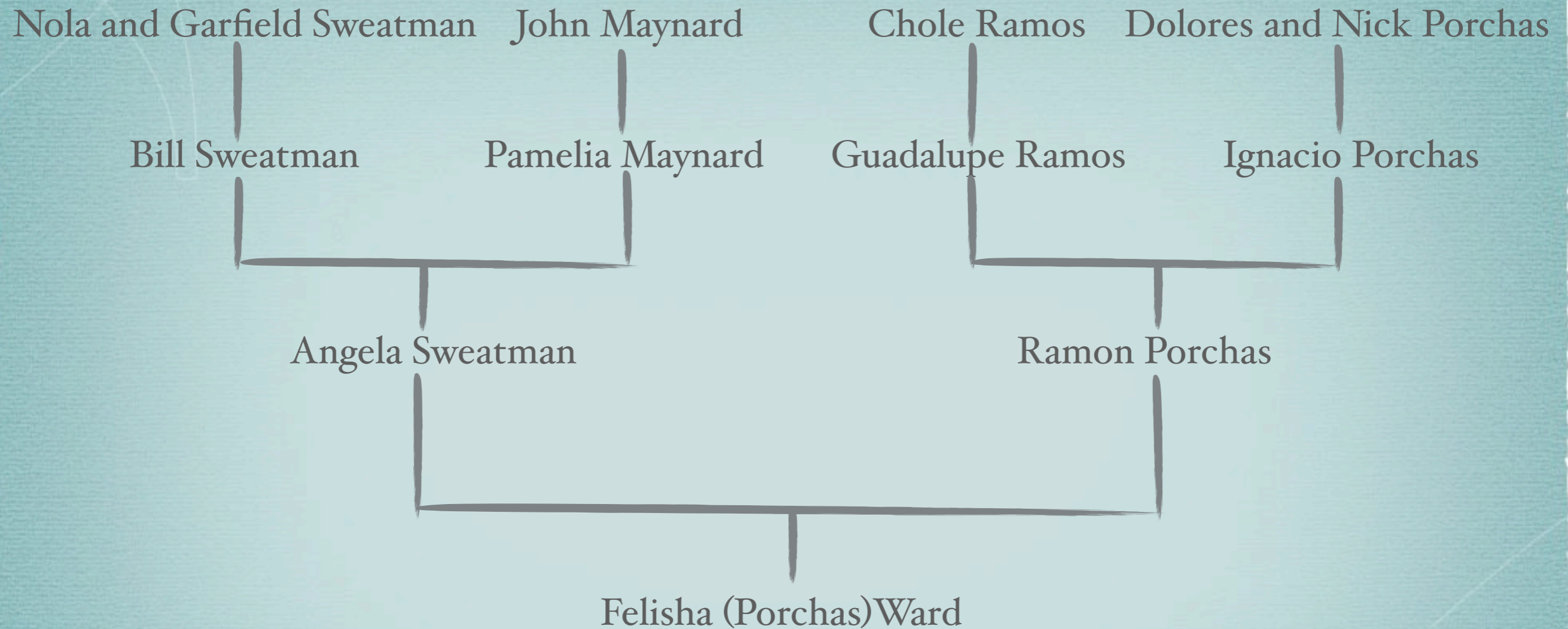
She remembers watching a lot of news coverage on Vietnam, but never realized until later that she had family members fighting in that war.

My Mom also remembers watching coverage of the Chernobyl Nuclear Accident.

She remembers the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.



My Family Tree



Some historical events in my life so far:

Terrorist attacks of September 11

Hurricane Katrina

Election of the first African American President

Japan Earthquake March 2011

Operation Enduring Freedom